



DECEMBER 2007

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INSIDE



SENIOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES FOR SENIORS

HUMAN SERVICES WILL JOIN FORCES WITH the College of St. Catherine's Physical Therapy Program on **Wednesday, January 16, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.**, at Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Avenue South, to present free health information to seniors. Topics include emergency preparedness, exercise, nutrition, osteoarthritis and more. For information, call 952-563-4873.

PASSPORT UPDATE

NEW GUIDELINES COMING

AS OF JANUARY 23, 2007, EVERYONE traveling by air between the United States and Canada, Mexico, Bermuda and the Caribbean region has been required to present a passport to enter or reenter the United States.

As early as January 2008, the requirement for U.S. citizens will extend to those traveling by land and sea.

The City Clerk's Office is a designated Passport Acceptance Facility. For more information, call 952-563-4923, or visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Passport.

COMMUNICATIONS

CITY TAKES HOME TWO FIRST-PLACE SAVVY AWARDS

BLOOMINGTON WAS A NATIONAL AWARD winner in this year's City-County Communications and Marketing Association's (3CMA) Savvy awards competition in Kansas City, Missouri. The City brought home two first-place Savvy Awards for the external *Briefing* and the internal *Insider* newsletters. The *Corporate Report to the Community* was also honored with the second-place Silver Circle Award.

Bloomington has captured awards in the 3CMA Savvy Competition every year since 1999, for a total of 18 awards, more than any other city or county in Minnesota.

RINK ONE RENOVATION COMPLETE

ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES FOR ALTERNATIVE USE

BLOOMINGTON ICE GARDEN'S (BIG) ORIGINAL RINK NUMBER one recently underwent a major renovation. The 37-year-old rink, which seats 1,800 people, has been home to millions of memories since it opened four decades ago. The rink reconstruction included concrete flooring, a new energy-efficient refrigeration system, extended players' boxes and seamless glass that will enhance spectator viewing.

Built with a sand floor when it was originally installed, the rink now sits on concrete.

"With the concrete floor, we can now thaw the top layer of ice and use the space for other activities such as indoor fairs, or we can put down Astroturf and have indoor soccer and lacrosse games. The possibilities are endless," said BIG Manager Andy Baltgalvis.

The renovation also replaces a failing, less-efficient cooling system with an efficient, multiuse floor.

The new rink opened for skating and hockey in November. For more information, call Andy Baltgalvis at 952-563-8842 or visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Ice Garden.



NOVEMBER ELECTION RESULTS

NO CHANGES IN CURRENT COUNCIL SEATS

VOTERS REELECTED MAYOR GENE Winstead and incumbent Councilmembers Steve Elkins, Amy Darr Grady and Vern Wilcox to serve four-year terms on the Bloomington City Council, beginning in 2008.



MAYOR

Mayor Gene Winstead, a member of the City Council since his appointment in 1995, was elected to his first four-year term as mayor in 1999. Mayor Winstead is a board member on Bloomington's Port Authority, Bloomington United for Youth, and the Bloomington Convention and Visitors Bureau. He is also a board member and past chair of the Municipal Legislative Committee and currently represents the Hennepin County suburbs on the Hennepin County Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee. "For the past 13 years, we've been renewing City facilities," said Mayor Winstead. "We will continue to renew Bloomington by rebuilding and building City infrastructure and facilities."

COUNCILMEMBER, AT LARGE

In addition to her work on the City Council, **Amy Darr Grady**, a Councilmember since 2003, is Commissioner of the Bloomington Port Authority and Vice Chair of the Bloomington Charter Commission. "It is an honor to continue to put my experience to work for Bloomington residents," said Grady.



COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT III

Steve Elkins has served on the City Council for six years. His focus has been on traffic, transportation and development issues. "I have been an advocate for the zoning reforms that are enabling the redevelopment of neighborhood-friendly commercial centers and for measures to improve the safety of neighborhood streets," said Elkins. "I hope to see these initiatives through to fruition."



COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT IV

Vern Wilcox has served on the City Council for the past 14 years. He hopes to use his experience to continue to represent citizens' interests through a challenging transition. "Our aging and diverse population changes, coupled with the airport expansion and proposed redevelopment, continue to present challenges to our quality of life," said Wilcox.



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